ON OUR WAY

The Newsletter of the

Westchester Women's Liberation Coalition

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BETTY FRIEDAN TO SPEAK IN WESTCHESTER MAY 27th. AUTHOR OF THE FEMININE MYSTIQUE TO APPEAR AT THE COUNTY CENTER IN WHITE PLAINS.

(See pg. 2 for details)

Vol. 1, Issue 7
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NEWS AROUND NEW YORK

Betty Friedan, author of The Feminine Mystique, a book that has influenced millions of women, and a controversial figure in her own right, will speak at the White Plains County Center's Little Theater on Thursday, May 27th at 8:30 P.M. Tickets at $3.00 will be sold at the door - first-come, first-served. For reservations call 669-5457, 666-8463 or 948-0367 or see page 5.

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Do your ideas fail to have an impact on those around you? Are you too nervous, too quiet? Then you'll be interested in our Workshop in Public Speaking, to be taught by Alan D. Levin, former radio announcer and professional public speaker. The Workshop will include guidance and practice in extemporaneous public speaking, organization of ideas and material, effective openings and closings, over-coming nervousness, voice projection, etc. Enrollment will be limited; phone 948-0367 to enroll. First session will be at 811 The Colony, Hartsdale, Thursday evening, May 13th at 8 P.M.

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Women from all over the country will be in N.Y.C. on May 7, 8, and 9 to attend the Women's Health Conference at the Washington Irving H.S. (3rd Ave. & 16th St.). Workshops will cover a vast range of topics concerning women and health: birth control, oppression of nurses, menopause, mental health and radical therapy, and sexuality to mention a few. Training Sessions will be held on venereal disease, medical skills, women's anatomy, first aide, birth control counseling, etc. A women's rock band will be featured at a party on Saturday eve. at 8 P.M. Registration will begin 6 P.M. Friday eve. when movies and guerilla theater will be featured. Workshops and training sessions will be held

Sat. 9 A.M. - 6 P.M. & Sun. 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.; registration fee $1.00. Call 212-691-1860.

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In the EYES OF THE LAW, women have been the last major group to achieve legal equality. All men, by simple "virtue" of being male, have had rights that we still must win. A major "right" is control of our own bodies, the right to bear or not to bear children, the right to receive equal pay for equal work, the right to job promotion based on ability, etc. We can realize important gains NOW, if we pressure for passage of some excellent bills pending in Albany. Arlene Hershman, of the New Democratic Coalition, spoke at the last Westchester Women's Lib. Coalition. She stated that intensive lobbying will begin in Albany on every Tuesday and Wednesday from April 27th on. Call Patsy Hanson 761-7782 for action on:

Divorce Bill (A-6074 & S-5247). A no-fault law granting divorce by mutual consent; property settlement to be 50-50; repeal of alimony.

Rape Bill (S-2448). Provides that there no longer need be absolute corroberation of every single detail of a rape, a requirement that has made rape almost impossible to prove. Even conviction of murder requires less proof! (Passed House; Now for the Senate.)

Minimum Wage Law - to cover domestics.

Employment - A bill to end discrimination in regard to promotion and recruitment for jobs.

Public Accommodations - No discrimination re sex for access to restaurants, motels, hotels, bars, etc.

Pregnancy Bill (S-3740) - Prevents discharge for pregnancy; right to return to same job at same pay and status.

Tax Amendment (S-2140) Amends law to allow for deduction of child care expenses.

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Rights of Minors (S-2181) is a law to make it possible for minors under 16 to contraceptives,

MAY CALENDAR

Tuesday May 4th	Women's Lobby Day in Albany, sponsored by New Democratic Coalition (See p.3) Call 761-7782 for details..
Tuesday May 4th	Second session of seminar A Women's Place...The Changing Image held at YWCA, 515 North St., White Plains, 9:30 A.M. Topic: The Nuclear Family. Call 949-6227 for registration.
Wed. May 5th	Mid-Westchester Women's Lib.(formerly W.Lib. of Scarsdale, Larchmont, Mamaroneck, and New Rochelle) are sponsoring a meeting for women new to the movement at the home of Norma Myers, 7 Lenox Pl., Scarsdale, 8:30 P.M..(Sc.3-6088)
Thurs. May 6th	Croton Women's Lib. meeting. All women invited. Call Elaine Disick, Cr.1-9283.
May 7th 8th 9th	Women's Health Conference at Washington Irving High Sch. in N.Y.C. See pg.2 for details or call 212-691-1860.
Tuesday May 11th	Third session of YWCA Seminar (see May 4) Topic: New Approaches to Child Rearing
Tuesday May 11th	Greenburgh WL, general meeting on organization and action projects. Karen Henes, 300 Central Ave., Apt.A-35, Hartsdale. 8:15 P.M. Call 725-0928. All Welcome.
Wed. May 12th	NOW meeting, 7:45 P.M.,No. Castle Library, Armonk. 962-5348 after 7 P.M.
Thurs. May 13th	Croton Women's Lib.(See May 6th above)
	Public Speaking Workshop, 8 P.M., 811 The Colony, Hartsdale. Call 948-0367 to enroll. (Details page 2.)
Monday May 17th	Westchester Women's Lib. Coalition. Joyce Levin, 811 The Colony, Hartsdale, 8:15 P.M.(948-0367) Report by Steering Committee, discussion of new projects.

Tuesday May 18th	Fourth Session of YWCA Seminar (See May 4th) Topic: Self-Fulfillment)
Thurs. May 20th	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - Send information, articles, poetry, personal testaments, etc. to Box 9, Hartsdale, N.Y. 10530.
Monday May 24th	Mid-Westchester Women's Lib. General meeting at the home of Mary Cohen, 61 Cooper Lane, Larchmont, 8:30 P.M. Topic: Employment Opportunities for Women. Speaker: Marcia Cooper of Oldstein Agency to discuss Westchester Opportunities. (834-8814)
Monday May 24th	Speakers Bureau Collective at the home of Jane Shallat, W. Hartsdale Ave.,Hartsdale 8:15 P.M. Call 948-4086. Open to all.
Tuesday May 25th	Fifth session of YWCA Seminar.(See May4) Topic: Toward a New Feminism: Sociological and Political Aspects.
Thurs. May 27th	An Evening With Betty Friedan. White Plains County Center, 8:30 P.M.(See p.2)

AN EVENING WITH BETTY FRIEDAN

Please send _____tickets @ $3.00 each

Name_____

Address_____

Amount Enclosed $_____

(Check or money order should be made out to Nat'l. Org. For Women. Mail to Ruth Becker, Pawling Road, N. Salem, N.Y. 10560. Enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope.)

The Troy-Albany-Schenectady Lib. group is sponsoring a weekend of workshops and symposiums in June. Details to follow or write Charlotte Kramer, 270 Pawling Ave., Troy, New York.

A REPORT ON THE RAPE CONFERENCE

Rape, as defined by a recent Random House dictionary, is "the refuse of grapes, after the juice has been extracted, used as a filter in making vinegar." True, that's only one(uncommon) definition, but there's no doubt that rape is the bitter fruit of a society that regards the violation of women as a minor evil, even as a source of perverse amusement. The myth that women "invite" rape, perhaps even secretly desire it, is a shameless perversion of facts, designed to continue sexist attitudes for the personal gain of males. Men who practice rape are sick. But our society provides the climate in which the seeds of such behavior find much nourishment...and endless stimulation. Condoning attitudes flourish in movies, TV, in the flood of pornographic materials, in the prevelant, highly acceptable (though largely unspoken) idea that it is proper for women to exchange their bodies for dinners, marriages, fur coats, etc. Millions of males who are hostile, aggressive, or who simply believe that as superior human beings they have a "right" to impose on "lesser" human beings make it impossible for a woman in America to walk the streets alone at night without a back-tingling sensation of fear. Women have lived too long with fear....and they are sick of it.

These were some of the ideas presented at the Conference on April 17th by the Radical Feminists. The strident tone that had prevailed at some previous meetings was absent, and in its place was one of a quiet but deep anger.

Over 300 women attended the conference, which began with a general meeting in the auditorium of the Washington Irving High School. Miriam Belenky, an Ass't. D.A. from the Bronx, spoke of the legal aspects that gave the rapist his easy victims and all too-frequent escape from lawful punishment. Florence Rush, a Social Worker at the Cooperative College Center of SUNY received a standing ovation for her impassioned

paper on "The Sexual Abuse of Children; a Feminist Point of View." Dr. Phyllis Chesler, a Psychologist from Richmond College, spoke on "The Psychology of the Rapist, His Victim, and Fantasies"...and brought down the house when she suggested that imprisonment was an improper punishment for rapists: they should, instead, be deprived of the tools of their trade.

Though laughter and bitter humor had a place throughout the Conference, the speeches and workshops concentrated on the serious business of how to raise the consciousness of women so that the barbaric aspects of a sexist society would one day be a thing of the past -- a day when whole women and whole men could live together in peace, understanding, and dignity.

L A T E N E W S

Mail is pouring into Albany demanding a return to the repressive abortion law of the past. The voice of Women's Liberation has not been heard strongly enough in Albany! Write Senators Flynn, Gordon, and Jioffre urging their support of the Ohrenstein-Leichter and Von Luther-Solarz bills. Gov. Rockefeller has temporarily stopped Medicaid payments for elective abortions. Only abortions to save the life of the mother will be covered by Medicaid. A bill will be introduced in Albany to make this permanent. ATTEND A LETTER WRITING PARTY AT PATSY HANSEN'S HOME, 24 ANDOVER RD., HARTSDALE, (761-7782) THURS. EVE. MAY 6th, 8 P.M. MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD - COME ONE, COME ALL.

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Beginning with the June issue, we will have a PERSONAL NOTICES column where space can be purchased at the rate of 50¢ per line for any purpose whatsoever. Do you want to sell something??? buy something??? need a baby-sitter??? want some information? need help with a new project? need a doctor, lawyer, psychologist?(Call 725-0928.)

All women are welcome to attend any and all of the events listed on the Calendar. Just phone for directions to meeting places.

To join the Westchester Women's Liberation Coalition, fill out the form below and mail to Box 9, Hartsdale, N.Y. 10530.

_____$5 - Basic Membership 1 yr.

_____$2.50 - Student Membership

_____$15 - Patron 1 yr.

_____$25 or more - Sponsor 1 yr.
(includes Newsletter Subscription

_____$1.- Women's Lib. Reading Packet

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

_____

PHONE NO._____

Westchester Women's Liberation Coalition, with groups in:

Ardsley	Hartsdale	Peekskill
Armonk	Irvington	Rye
Chappaqua	Larchmont	Scarsdale
Croton	Mahopac	Tarrytown
Dobbs Ferry	Mamaroneck	White Plai
Greenburgh	Mt. Kisco	Yonkers
Harrison	N. Rochelle	Yorktwn. Ht

and including: The Nat'l. Organizatic For Women in Westchester (NOW)

BOX 9, HARTSDALE, N.Y. 10530

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y.
MAY 3 PM 1977
SCF WESTC

120RSH
FLORENCE RUSH
120 ELK AVE
NEW ROCHELLE, NY